

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 0258

EO 11652GDS
TAGS: PINS, SCUL, UR
SUBJ: EXHIBITIONS BY UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS

REF: 75 LENINGRAD 1865

1. LENINGRAD "UNOFFICIAL" ARTISTS HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THERE ARE NO RPT NO PROSPECTS OF OFFICIAL SPONSORSHIP FOR A SPRING REPEAT OF EXHIBITION SIMILAR TO THAT HELD IN NOVEMBER 1975. AT SAME TIME, THEY HOPE THAT SUCH EXHIBITION MAY BE POSSIBLE TOWARD END OF YEAR. ANATOLIY PETRUNIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF LENINGRAD'S ADMINISTRATION FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS, MADE POINT OF AMENDING HIS EARLIER REMARKS (REPORTED REFTEL) DURING RECENT CONVERSATION WITH POLOFF. PETRUNIN SAID THAT EMPHASIS WOULD BE ON NUMBER OF POST-25TH PARTY CONGRESS CULTURAL EVENTS, ETC., AND THAT ANOTHER EXHIBITION FOR UNOFFICIALS WOULD BE CONSIDERED ONLY AFTER ASCHEDULE OF EVENTS SUBSIDES.

2. BUT UNOFFICIAL EXHIBITIONS CONTINUE TO TAKE PLACE. TWO LENINGRAD ARTISTS, YURIY KOZLOV AND V. FILIMONOV, ARE PRESENTLY SHOWING SOME 40 PAINTINGS AND GRAPHICS IN A PRIVATE APARTMENT. BOTH ARTISTS USE RELIGIOUS MOTIFS AND FILIMONOV'S TENDENCY TO MIX NUDES WITH RELIGION IS A LONG WAY FROM SOCIALIST REALISM. EXHIBITION OPENED FEBRUARY 15 AND WILL CLOSE ON FEBRUARY 22. KOZLOV SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO PRESSURE FROM AUTHORITIES THUS FAR.

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